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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

JULY | Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor, Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports | 87-7

Unemployment increased by 1,190 from mid-June to mid-July. The latest total of 15,960 unemployed represents 2.6 percent of the civilian labor force of 605,860. The unemployment rate was 2.5 percent in June and 3.2 percent a year ago. Nationally the rates were 6.1 percent in July, 6.3 percent in June, and 7.0 percent a year ago. The latest labor force data available by State (June 1987) indicates that New Hampshire has had the lowest unemployment rate of any State for twenty-three consecutive months.

Factory jobs decreased statewide due primarily to workers filing for unemployment compensation as a result of vacation plant shutdowns. Those that filed were ineligible for vacation pay due to insufficient time on the job. Some of the losses in manufacturing were offset by employment gains in nonmanufacturing. The number of seasonal jobs expanded especially in trade and services as tourism approached peak levels in many areas of the State. The seacoast, lakes region, and mountain resort areas all added on workers to meet the demand of the summertime population.

The rates of unemployment ranged from a low of 1.5 percent in the Claremont LMA to a high of 5.3 percent in the Salem area (N.H. Portion of the Lawrence Haverhill MA. PMSA). Due primarily to vacation claims by factory workers, nine areas recorded unemployment increases in July. The Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester N.H. ME. MSA led this group with an increase of 500 more unemployed. Year ago comparisons indicate seven areas had lower unemployment and five areas had higher unemployment in July. The Salem area had the largest increase in unemployment with 210 more unemployed while the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester N.H. ME. MSA experienced the largest decrease in unemployment with 1,210 fewer unemployed.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 850 from June as manufacturing lost 1,750 jobs while nonmanufacturing gained 2,600. Compared to the year ago level, nonagricultural wage and salary employment is up 15,950 as manufacturing increased 2,300 jobs and nonmanufacturing 13,650. Trade gained 5,900, services 4,050, and finance, insurance, and real estate 2,200 over the year.

The average weekly manufacturing wage for July was $377.74 which represented average weekly hours worked of 40.1 at an average hourly rate of $9.42. The average hourly rate for durables was $9.64 and for nondurables it was $8.90. Average weekly hours worked was highest in the paper industry at 44.8 and lowest in the footwear industry with 35.6.

New Hampshire Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment and Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	State					Manchester MSA					Nashua PMSA				
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous		Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous		Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous	
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	Month	Year	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	Month	Year	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	Month	Year
1. Civilian labor force*	605,860	601,230	575,860	4,630	30,000	87,480	87,390	83,480	90	4,000	95,910	97,060	92,070	-1,150	3,840
2. Unemployment	15,960	14,770	18,560	1,190	-2,600	1,860	1,820	2,460	40	-600	2,490	2,720	2,810	-230	-320
Percent of labor force	2.6	2.5	3.2	xxx	xxx	2.1	2.1	2.9	xxx	xxx	2.6	2.8	3.1	xxx	xxx
3. Employment total	589,850	586,460	557,300	3,390	32,550	85,620	85,570	81,020	50	4,600	93,420	94,340	89,260	-920	4,160
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	50	0	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonagri. wage & salary**	509,900	509,050	493,950	850	15,950	84,900	85,150	82,400	-250	2,500	88,900	90,300	86,900	-1,400	2,000
Manufacturing	116,600	118,350	114,300	-1,750	2,300	12,350	12,600	13,150	-250	-800	36,050	36,050	35,850	0	200
Durable goods	82,250	83,000	80,200	-750	2,050	8,100	8,200	8,000	-100	100	29,950	29,950	29,800	0	150
Lumber & wood prods.	5,950	6,050	5,750	-100	200										
Furniture & fixtures	1,550	1,550	1,500	0	50										
Stone & clay prods.	3,400	3,300	3,200	100	200										
Primary metal prods.	*4,550	4,650	4,050	-100	500										
Fabricated metal prods.	6,650	6,800	6,400	-150	250										
Machinery (exc. elec.)	25,400	25,250	25,100	150	300										
Electrical prods.	23,950	24,000	23,050	-50	900	4,600	4,650	4,600	-50	0	22,950	22,950	22,850	0	100
Miscellaneous prods.	1,950	2,050	1,950	-100	0										
Other durables	8,850	9,350	9,200	-500	-350	3,500	3,550	3,400	-50	100	7,000	7,000	6,950	0	50
Nondurable goods	34,350	35,350	34,100	-1,000	250	4,250	4,400	5,150	-150	-900	6,100	6,100	6,050	0	50
Food & kindred prods.	3,100	3,150	2,900	-50	200										
Textile mill prods.	3,750	3,850	3,150	-100	600	1,200	1,300	1,250	-100	-50					
Apparel	1,900	2,100	2,150	-200	-250										
Paper & allied prods.	5,300	5,350	5,550	-50	-250										
Print., pub. & allied	7,400	7,300	7,150	100	250										
Leather & lea. prods.	3,800	4,350	3,650	-550	150										
Other nondurables	9,100	9,250	9,550	-150	-450	3,050	3,100	3,900	-50	-850					
Nonmanufacturing	393,300	390,700	379,650	2,600	13,650	72,550	72,550	69,250	0	3,300	52,850	54,250	51,050	-1,400	1,800
Construction (inc. min.)	38,150	36,700	38,250	1,450	-100	6,200	5,800	6,050	400	150	5,050	5,250	4,800	-200	250
Trans., comm. & util.	16,600	17,700	16,600	-1,100	0	4,900	4,950	4,800	-50	100	2,150	2,250	2,000	-100	150
Trade	129,850	128,600	123,950	1,250	5,900	22,500	22,900	21,950	-400	550	20,050	20,450	19,400	-400	650
Fin., ins. & real estate	31,300	31,000	29,100	300	2,200	8,750	8,650	7,900	100	850	3,750	3,650	3,300	100	450
Service industry & other	117,850	113,400	113,800	4,450	4,050	22,050	22,150	21,200	-100	850	16,400	16,650	16,150	-250	250
Government	59,550	63,300	57,950	-3,750	1,600	8,150	8,100	7,350	50	800	5,450	6,000	5,400	-550	50
Federal	8,850	9,000	8,250	-150	600	2,900	2,700	2,400	200	500	850	850	750	0	100
State	16,050	16,200	15,700	-150	350	800	800	800	0	0	250	200	250	50	0
Local	34,650	38,100	34,000	-3,450	650	4,450	4,600	4,150	-150	300	4,350	4,950	4,400	-600	-50

Machinery And Electrical Products Combined

* By place of residence

** By place of establishment Benchmark

Labor Disputes: 50

* Industry

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE BY AREA AND COUNTY

Area	Unemployment*						Numerical Change From Previous		Civilian Labor Force			Numerical Change From Previous	
	July 1987		June 1987		July 1986				July	June	July		
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Month	Year	1987	1987	1986	Month	Year
UNITED STATES**	7,453	6.1	7,655	6.3	8,471	7.0	-202	-1,018	122,105	121,153	120,303	952	1,802
NEW HAMPSHIRE	15,960	2.6	14,770	2.5	18,560	3.2	1,190	-2,600	605,860	601,230	575,860	4,630	30,000
BERLIN LMA	660	2.4	610	2.3	640	2.5	50	20	27,330	26,490	25,480	840	1,850
CLAREMONT LMA	620	1.5	550	1.4	780	2.1	70	-160	40,280	39,440	38,010	840	2,270
CONCORD LMA	1,250	2.3	1,000	1.8	1,080	2.1	250	170	54,580	54,510	50,710	70	3,870
KEENE LMA	770	1.8	630	1.5	1,090	2.7	140	-320	42,210	41,130	39,790	1,080	2,420
LACONIA LMA	1,070	1.9	830	1.5	1,330	2.4	240	-260	57,700	54,810	54,520	2,890	3,180
LITTLETON LMA	390	2.1	420	2.3	720	4.0	-30	-330	18,920	18,450	18,150	470	770
MANCHESTER MSA	1,860	2.1	1,820	2.1	2,460	2.9	40	-600	87,480	87,390	83,480	520	4,000
NASHUA PMSA	2,490	2.6	2,720	2.8	2,810	3.1	-230	-320	95,910	97,060	92,070	-1,150	3,840
N.H. PORTION LAWRENCE-HAVERHILL MA. PMSA***	2,650	5.3	2,420	4.7	2,440	5.1	230	210	50,400	51,100	48,140	-700	2,260
PORTSMOUTH-DOVER-ROCHESTER N.H.-ME.	3,440	2.5	2,940	2.2	4,650	3.6	500	-1,210	136,340	134,450	130,950	1,890	5,390
UNATTACHED ESTIMATING AREA****	840	4.2	880	4.2	790	4.2	-40	50	19,990	20,770	18,790	-780	1,200
N.H. PORTION LOWELL MA. PMSA	280	5.3	270	5.0	220	4.3	10	60	5,310	5,400	5,100	-90	210
County													
BELKNAP	630	2.1	440	1.5	770	2.7	190	-140	29,980	28,490	28,320	1,490	1,660
CARROLL	290	1.5	310	1.6	270	1.5	-20	20	19,410	18,810	18,150	600	1,260
CHESHIRE	700	1.9	570	1.6	1,020	2.9	130	-320	37,700	36,730	35,570	970	2,130
COOS	620	2.9	580	2.8	720	3.6	40	-100	21,280	20,640	20,000	640	1,280
GRAFTON	710	1.7	730	1.8	1,040	2.6	-20	-330	42,400	41,210	40,220	1,190	2,180
HILLSBOROUGH	4,610	2.5	4,760	2.6	5,380	3.1	-150	-770	183,020	184,170	174,930	-1,150	8,090
MERRIMACK	1,340	2.0	1,080	1.7	1,300	2.1	260	40	65,810	65,170	61,530	640	4,280
ROCKINGHAM	4,610	3.7	4,490	3.6	4,840	4.0	120	-230	125,410	126,440	119,750	-1,030	5,660
STRAFFORD	2,080	3.5	1,530	2.6	2,710	4.7	550	-630	60,170	59,370	57,810	800	2,360
SULLIVAN	370	1.8	280	1.4	510	2.6	90	-140	20,680	20,200	19,580	480	1,100

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates.

** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.

*** New Hampshire Portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and twelve small towns.

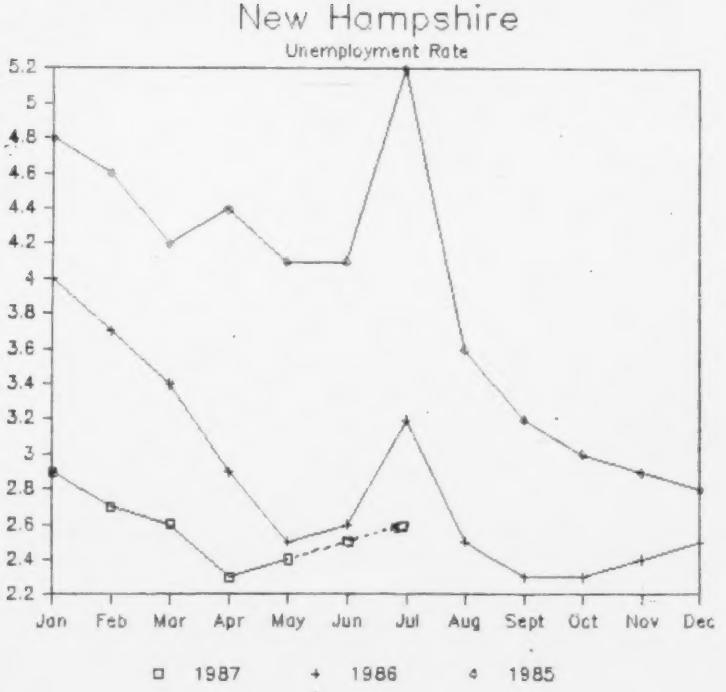
**** Includes twenty towns previously in either Dover, Portsmouth, Manchester or Nashua LMAS.

Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester N.H. ME. MSA includes the New Hampshire cities of Dover, Portsmouth, Rochester, and Somersworth, the New Hampshire towns of Barrington, Durham, Exeter, Farmington, Greenland, Hampton, Lee, Madbury, Milton, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket, North Hampton, Rollinsford, Rye, and Stratham, and the Maine towns of Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, North Berwick, Ogunquit, South Berwick, Wells, and York.

AREA DEFINITIONS

Manchester MSA includes the city of Manchester and towns of Allenstown, Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Goffstown, Hooksett.

Nashua PMSA is located in the southern section of Hillsborough County and includes the City of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Litchfield, Londonderry, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton.



U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Item	1987	1986	1985	1984
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers				
Current month - July	335.6			
Percent change from year ago	3.9			
Year average		323.4	318.5	307.6
Percent increase each year		1.5	3.5	3.4
All Urban Consumers				
Current month - July	340.8			
Percent change from year ago	3.9			
Year average		328.4	322.2	311.1
Percent increase each year		1.9	3.6	4.3

Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester Civilian Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous	
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	136,340	134,450	130,950	1,890	5,390
Unemployment	3,440	2,940	4,650	500	-1,210
Percent of Labor Force	2.5	2.2	3.6	xxx	xxx
Employment Total	132,900	131,510	126,300	1,390	6,600
Persons Involved in Labor Disputes	0	0	0	0	0
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	110,050	110,250	106,900	-200	3,150
Manufacturing	19,250	20,200	19,400	-950	-150
Durable Goods	12,000	12,250	12,150	-250	-150
Nondurable Goods	7,250	7,950	7,250	-700	0
Nonmanufacturing	90,800	90,050	87,500	750	3,300
Construction (inc. mining)	5,550	5,450	5,900	100	-350
Trans., Commun. & Utilities	3,100	3,050	2,850	50	250
Trade	30,850	30,350	30,250	500	600
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	6,500	6,450	5,850	50	650
Services	21,650	20,850	20,150	800	1,500
Government	23,150	23,900	22,500	-750	650
Federal	10,750	10,700	10,750	50	0
State	4,350	4,350	4,300	0	50
Local	8,050	8,850	7,450	-800	600

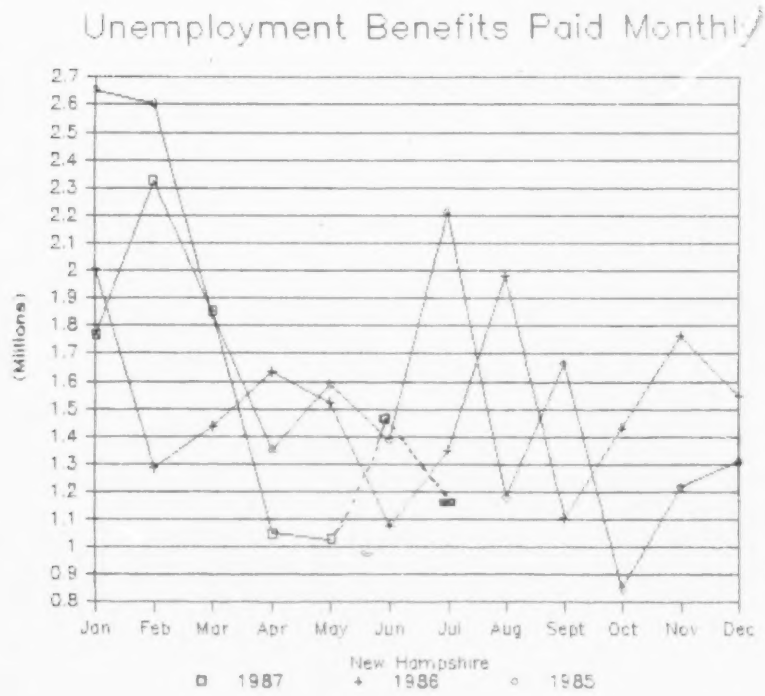
Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986
Manufacturing	$372.96	$376.00	$345.93	39.3	40.0	39.0	9.49	9.40	8.87
Durable Goods	416.98	419.63	374.40	40.8	41.1	38.4	10.22	10.21	9.75
Nondurable - Goods	297.34	312.19	300.40	36.8	38.4	40.0	8.08	8.13	7.51

Sample Percent of Production Workers	Total Production Workers	Firms Reporting
51%	13,098	43

Weekly Claims Filed During July
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. State Workers (Only)		UC Local Government		Servicemen UCX (Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No UI	
	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All Offices	4,216	10,553	4	22	7	15	26	22	15	19
Berlin	193	321	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	2
Claremont	175	338	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Concord	426	785	2	1	0	0	2	2	1	0
Conway	52	108	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dover	903	2,204	0	5	0	3	7	2	4	0
Keene	187	436	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
Laconia	279	643	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	0
Lebanon	42	118	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Littleton	201	341	0	0	0	5	2	1	1	2
Manchester	714	1,617	1	3	0	2	2	1	3	4
Nashua	419	989	0	2	2	1	2	1	3	1
Portsmouth	299	1,032	1	3	0	0	2	5	2	5
Salem	161	489	0	2	2	3	1	3	0	2
Liable Interstate	165	1,132	0	5	0	0	0	2	0	3

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was $120.50



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance End of Month

$ 152,075,953.74

Net contributions received during month:

$ 3,916,347.89

Net benefits paid during month:

$ 1,163,627.16

Interest Received:

0

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

New Hampshire

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986
All manufacturing	$377.74	$382.64	$358.09	40.1	41.1	40.1	$9.42	$9.31	$8.93
Durable goods	388.49	392.06	364.32	40.3	41.4	39.6	9.64	9.47	9.20
Lumber & wood prods.	312.23	306.87	260.63	37.8	38.6	37.5	8.26	7.95	6.95
Furniture & fixtures	316.98	319.19	275.87	40.9	41.4	38.8	7.75	7.71	7.11
Stone & clay prods.	368.92	349.27	362.95	42.6	39.6	42.5	8.66	8.82	8.54
Primary metal prods.	411.76	441.78	380.07	41.3	44.4	41.0	9.97	9.95	9.27
Fab. metal prods.	386.91	391.25	326.84	40.9	41.8	36.6	9.46	9.36	8.93
Mach. (exc. elec.)	418.50	416.98	395.43	43.1	43.3	41.8	9.71	9.63	9.46
Electrical prods.	390.00	402.20	396.78	37.5	40.1	38.9	10.40	10.03	10.20
Miscellaneous prods.	331.30	324.82	273.67	40.7	40.2	37.8	8.14	8.08	7.24
Other durables	399.34	399.00	360.08	41.0	42.0	39.7	9.74	9.50	9.07
Nondurable goods	355.11	362.25	343.60	39.9	40.5	41.1	8.90	8.95	8.36
Food & kindred prods.	492.49	458.74	428.29	45.1	43.4	44.8	10.92	10.57	9.56
Textile mill prods.	305.60	310.78	301.36	40.0	40.1	39.6	7.64	7.75	7.61
Apparel	236.99	236.82	225.79	36.8	36.1	38.4	6.44	6.56	5.88
Paper & allied prods.	483.39	528.44	473.79	44.8	49.9	48.1	10.79	10.59	9.85
Print., pub. & allied	355.88	357.27	345.00	37.5	37.1	37.5	9.49	9.63	9.20
Leather & lea. prods.	212.86	216.38	230.50	36.7	36.8	39.2	5.80	5.88	5.88
Footwear	194.02	201.29	220.97	35.6	36.4	39.6	5.45	5.53	5.58
Other nondurables	362.48	383.11	343.54	39.4	40.2	40.8	9.20	9.53	8.42

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 33%

Total Production Workers: 79,400

Firms Reporting: 255

Manchester MSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986
All manufacturing	$376.40	$376.25	$348.77	40.0	40.5	39.1	$9.41	$9.29	$8.92
Durable goods	387.69	386.40	369.22	39.2	40.0	38.5	9.89	9.66	9.59
Mach. & elec. prods.	390.06	398.05	356.96	39.4	40.7	38.3	9.90	9.78	9.32
Other durables	383.94	373.18	384.12	38.9	39.2	38.8	9.87	9.52	9.90
Nondurable goods	356.10	356.90	317.59	41.6	41.5	40.1	8.56	8.60	7.92
Textiles & apparel	282.36	283.88	286.77	37.9	37.7	39.5	7.45	7.53	7.26
Other nondurables	384.42	387.90	326.42	43.0	43.1	40.2	8.94	9.00	8.12

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 44%

Total Production Workers: 9,648

Firms Reporting: 32

Nashua PMSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986
All manufacturing	$467.98	$479.52	$426.38	40.8	42.1	40.3	$11.47	$11.39	$10.58
Durable goods	484.38	491.05	431.35	41.4	42.7	40.2	11.70	11.50	10.73
Mach. & elec. prods.	508.59	519.51	464.00	40.3	42.1	40.0	12.62	12.34	11.60
Other durables	430.65	433.06	352.92	43.5	44.1	40.8	9.90	9.82	8.65
Nondurable goods	402.98	433.42	404.19	38.6	39.8	40.5	10.44	10.89	9.98

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 32%

Total Production Workers: 20,757

Firms Reporting: 50

Number of Active Applicants and Female Applicants by Major Occupational Category
Period Ending July 31, 1987

	NEW HAMPSHIRE		MANCHESTER		NASHUA	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
TOTAL						
Prof., Tech. (00-16)	7,218	3,492	1,086	554	645	304
Managerial (18,19)	1,359	493	158	50	188	64
Clerical (20-24)	1,472	1,204	235	186	107	78
Sales (25-29)	426	213	67	30	40	15
Services (3)	1,152	775	209	157	66	46
Farm (4)	94	26	13	3	6	3
Processing (5)	100	39	12	7	8	5
Machine Trade (6)	462	119	55	19	40	10
Benchwork (7)	612	416	95	64	87	61
Structural (8)	995	61	122	4	59	2
Miscellaneous (9)	542	145	120	34	44	20
Unclassified	4	1	0	0	0	0

Employment Service Activity

ITEM	July 1987	June 1987	July 1, 1987 To July 31, 1987
Total applicants for employment	2,306	2,270	2,306
Total nonagricultural job openings received	2,974	2,388	2,974
Job openings unfilled end of month	3,506	2,825	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural & agricultural	895	913	895